

Senate File 512 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 512
BY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AFFAIRS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1065)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to military and veterans benefits.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 35A.13, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code
2 2019, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. The minimum balance of the trust fund required prior
4 to expenditure of moneys from the trust fund is five million
5 dollars. Once the minimum balance is reached, the interest and
6 earnings on the fund and the first ~~five~~ six hundred thousand
7 dollars transferred each fiscal year pursuant to [section 99G.39](#)
8 from the lottery fund to the trust fund are appropriated to the
9 commission to be used to achieve the purposes of [subsection 6](#)
10 of [this section](#). Moneys appropriated to the commission that
11 remain unobligated or unexpended at the end of each fiscal year
12 shall revert to the trust fund. It is the intent of the general
13 assembly that the balance in the trust fund reach fifty million
14 dollars.

15 Sec. 2. Section 35A.13, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 6A. a. Notwithstanding subsection 6
18 of this section, the commission shall transfer one hundred
19 thousand dollars of the moneys appropriated pursuant to this
20 section each fiscal year to the injured veterans trust fund
21 established pursuant to section 35A.14. However, if the
22 balance of the injured veterans trust fund remaining on June
23 30 of a fiscal year is one million dollars or more, no moneys
24 shall be transferred pursuant to this paragraph in a succeeding
25 fiscal year until the balance of the injured veterans trust
26 fund remaining on June 30 of a fiscal year is below seven
27 hundred thousand dollars.

28 Sec. 3. Section 35A.14, subsection 4, Code 2019, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 4. Moneys appropriated to or received by the department for
31 providing injured veterans grants under [this section](#) may be
32 expended for grants of up to ten thousand dollars to a veteran
33 who is seriously injured or very seriously injured, as defined
34 in the most recently published United States department of
35 defense joint publication 1-02, to provide financial assistance

1 to the veteran so that family members of the veteran may be
 2 with the veteran during the veteran's recovery from an injury
 3 received in the line of duty ~~in a combat zone or in a zone where~~
 4 ~~the veteran was receiving hazardous duty pay~~ outside the United
 5 States after September 11, 2001.

6 Sec. 4. Section 35A.14, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code
 7 2019, is amended to read as follows:

8 b. Proof of continued medical care or rehabilitation
 9 services may include any reasonably reliable documentation
 10 showing that the veteran is receiving continued medical or
 11 rehabilitative care as a result of qualifying injuries. Proof
 12 that the injury occurred in the line of duty shall be made
 13 based upon the circumstances of the injury known at the time of
 14 evacuation from the ~~combat zone or zone in which the veteran~~
 15 ~~was receiving hazardous duty pay~~ place where the veteran was
 16 injured.

17 Sec. 5. Section 272C.4, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
 18 following new subsection:

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. a. Establish procedures by January
 20 1, 2020, to expedite the licensing of an individual who is
 21 licensed in a similar profession or occupation in another state
 22 and who is the spouse of an active duty member of the military
 23 forces of the United States.

24 b. If the board determines that the professional or
 25 occupational licensing requirements of the state where
 26 the spouse is licensed are substantially equivalent to the
 27 licensing requirements of this state, the procedures shall
 28 require the expedited licensing of the spouse in this state.

29 c. If the board determines that the professional or
 30 occupational licensing requirements of the state where the
 31 spouse is licensed are not substantially equivalent to the
 32 professional or occupational licensing requirements of this
 33 state, the procedures shall allow the provisional licensing
 34 of the spouse for a period of time deemed necessary by the
 35 board to obtain a substantial equivalent to the licensing

1 requirements of this state. The board shall advise the
 2 spouse of required education or training necessary to obtain
 3 a substantial equivalent to the professional or occupational
 4 licensing requirements of this state, and the procedures shall
 5 provide for licensing of an individual who has, pursuant to
 6 this paragraph, obtained a substantial equivalent to the
 7 licensing requirements of this state.

8 EXPLANATION

9 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
 10 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

11 Currently, under Code section 35A.14, the injured veterans
 12 grant program provides grants to veterans recovering from an
 13 injury received in the line of duty in a combat zone or in a
 14 zone where the veteran was receiving hazardous duty pay after
 15 September 11, 2001. This bill eliminates the requirement that
 16 the veteran be injured in a combat zone or zone where the
 17 veteran is receiving hazardous duty pay in order to qualify for
 18 the program, but requires the veteran be injured in the line of
 19 duty outside the United States.

20 Under Code section 99G.39, \$2.5 million in lottery revenues
 21 are transferred each fiscal year to the veterans trust fund.
 22 The bill amends Code section 35A.13(4)(a) and provides that
 23 \$600,000 of the moneys received by the veterans trust fund
 24 pursuant to Code section 99G.39 are to be appropriated to the
 25 commission of veterans affairs. The bill provides that the
 26 commission of veterans affairs shall transfer \$100,000 of the
 27 moneys appropriated to the commission pursuant to Code section
 28 35A.13(4)(a) to the injured veterans trust fund established
 29 pursuant to Code section 35A.14 each fiscal year. However,
 30 if the balance of the injured veterans trust fund remaining
 31 on June 30 of a fiscal year is \$1 million or more, no moneys
 32 are transferred in a succeeding fiscal year until the balance
 33 of the injured veterans trust fund remaining on June 30 of a
 34 fiscal year is below \$700,000.

35 The bill also establishes an expedited licensing process for

1 spouses of active duty members of the United States military
2 who are stationed in Iowa pursuant to military orders. Code
3 section 272C.4 is amended to provide that licensing boards
4 establish procedures by January 1, 2020, to expedite the
5 licensing of an individual who is licensed in a similar
6 profession or occupation in another state and who is the spouse
7 of an active duty member of the military forces of the United
8 States. Provisional licensing procedures are also required to
9 be established.